

WILLIAM L. OWENS
21ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

February 14, 2013

PLEASE RESPOND TO
WASHINGTON OFFICE:

☐ 405 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4611

DISTRICT OFFICE:

☐ 120 WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 200
WATERTOWN, NY 13601
(315) 782-3150

☐ 14 DURKEE STREET, SUITE 320
PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901
(518) 563-1406

☐ 136 GLEN STREET
GLENS FALLS, NY 12801

Mr. Patrick Donahoe
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Donahoe,

As you recall, I have written to you on numerous occasions expressing dismay in the approach taken by the United States Postal Service (USPS) to get on a path to recovery. On January 22, 2013, I was again disappointed to read about squandered opportunities to enhance revenue in a New York Times article titled "Postal Service Losing Out on Federal Contracts."

The article supported what I have long suspected; specifically that management at the USPS is applying a purely cost-cutting approach, and neglecting one that takes advantage of revenue enhancement opportunities. It is imperative that a two-prong approach be used in addressing these problems, which, in my view, should include both cost cuts and revenue enhancements.

Furthermore, the recent spate of post office closings in my district underscores the likelihood that small rural areas will take the brunt of the cuts as this plays out. This appears to me to be a purely political approach to a very complex problem.

We have corresponded many times since I became a Member of Congress, and I genuinely value our ability to engage in civil discourse. With that said, I would very much appreciate your thoughts on the toll your approach will take on small rural areas, and why the USPS has missed out on opportunities to enhance revenue through federal contracts.

Very truly yours,

Bill Owens
Member of Congress